



# IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS IN IDAHO



## Site Nomination Form

Thank you for participating in the Idaho Important Bird Areas Program. If you don't have all the information requested, please fill out as much of this form as you can. Type or neatly print your entries. Return this form to **Colleen Moulton, IDFG (Wildlife), P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707; (208) 287-2751; cmoulton@idfg.idaho.gov**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name			Phone
Address			Fax
City	State	Zip	E-mail
Audubon Chapter or Other Affiliation			

SITE INFORMATION

Name of Site	
Nearest Town	County
General Location and Directions to Site	
Geographic Coordinates (Center of Site)	
Name of USGS Topographic Map Quad where this site is located:	
Approximate Size of Site (in acres)	Elevation Range (in feet): LOWEST: _____ HIGHEST: _____
General Description of Site:	

DON'T FORGET TO ATTACH A DETAILED MAP OF YOUR SITE.

REMINDER: REVIEW THE ACCOMPANYING SHEET "HOW TO SELECT A SITE" BEFORE COMPLETING THIS SECTION.

CRITERIA: Put a check mark next to the criteria used to nominate this site.

## 1. Congregations of Birds

- ☐ (a) >50 pairs of colonial nesting birds
- ☐ (b) >2000 waterfowl
- ☐ (c) >300 migrating raptors
- ☐ (d) >100 shorebirds
- ☐ (e) >2500 pairs nesting gulls or >500 individual wintering gulls
- ☐ (f) >25 pairs breeding terns

☐ 2. **Exceptional Concentrations or Diversity**

☐ 3. Species of Special Concern

#### 4. Important Habitats

- ☐ (a) Rare, Threatened, or Unusual Habitat
- ☐ (b) Exceptional Representative of a Natural Habitat

☐ 5. Long-term Research or Monitoring

**SUMMARY:** Summarize the key birdlife for which this site is important.

**DETAILED INFORMATION ON SPECIES:** Fill in the table for each applicable species that falls under the criteria checked above.

[illegible]

KEY TO TABLE:

Season: Write B (Breeding season), W (Wintering), S (Spring Migration), or F (Fall Migration)

Avg. Numbers/Period and Max. Numbers/Period: For example, write "1,500/season" or "50/day"

Year(s) on which data are based: For example, if you averaged the last 5 Christmas Bird Counts, write "1999-2004"

How sure are you of these data?: Write 1 for rough estimate, 2 for good estimate, 3 for accurate count or estimate

WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR DATA? (Examples: Breeding Bird Survey, Christmas Bird Counts, personal observations. If a published source, please give title, author, and date.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Any other bird notes of interest?

PIF AVIAN PHYSIOGRAPHIC REGION:  
*LEAVE THIS BLANK*

- ☐ #64 Central Rocky Mountains
- ☐ #69 Utah Mountains
- ☐ #80 Basin and Range
- ☐ #86 Wyoming Basin
- ☐ #89 Columbia Plateau

HABITAT TYPE(S): Classify as P (Primary = >50% of cover vegetation) or S (Secondary = <50% of cover vegetation); or indicate the approximate percent cover of each habitat type.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Whitebark Pine, Mountain Hemlock, Grand Fir, Subalpine Fir, or Engelmann Spruce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sagebrush/Salt Desert Shrub
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cedar and Hemlock Forest	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grassland
<input type="checkbox"/>	Douglas Fir/Western Larch	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marshes, Lakes, and Ponds
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ponderosa Pine	<input type="checkbox"/>	Riparian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Juniper/Pinyon/Mtn. Mahogany	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cliffs, Rock Outcrops, Talus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Aspen	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sand Dunes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mountain Brush	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Industrial

HABITAT CHARACTERISTICS: Including dominant plant communities, topography, soils, climate, hydrology, geology, etc.

HABITAT INFORMATION

NON-AVIAN FAUNA AND FLORA: List important, rare, or unusual plant and animal species and indicate their significance at this particular site.

Species Name	Significance

LAND USE(S): Classify as P (Primary = >50% of use) or S (Secondary = <50% of use); or indicate the approximate percent of each.

<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture/Cultivation	<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Conservation/Natural Area/Land Trust
<input type="checkbox"/> Rangeland/Pasture/Livestock Grazing	<input type="checkbox"/> Mining	<input type="checkbox"/> Military
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Supply	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation/Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban/Industrial/Utility
<input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries/Aquaculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Hunting	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

LAND OWNERSHIP/MANAGEMENT: Check all that apply. *REVIEW THE LAND OWNERSHIP GUIDELINES BEFORE COMPLETING THIS SECTION.*

- ☐ State
- ☐ Municipal
- ☐ Federal (non-military)
- ☐ Corporate
- ☐ Federal (military)
- ☐ Private
- ☐ Check if you have contacted the land owner(s) or land manager(s) for this site
- ☐ Check if you have gotten permission from the land owner or manager to nominate this site as an IBA

CONSERVATION INFORMATION

CONSERVATION PROBLEMS: Classify as S (Serious), M (Minor), or P (Potential)

<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Pests/Disease	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Pollution	<input type="checkbox"/> Predation
<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced Plants or Animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Generation	<input type="checkbox"/> Deforestation/Tree Cutting
<input type="checkbox"/> Over-extraction of Groundwater	<input type="checkbox"/> Excessive or Irresponsible Hunting	<input type="checkbox"/> Afforestation/Tree Planting
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Pollution	<input type="checkbox"/> Disturbance of Birds	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Diversion/Channelization
<input type="checkbox"/> Overgrazing/Over-browsing	<input type="checkbox"/> Drainage	<input type="checkbox"/> Succession
<input type="checkbox"/> Land Claim/Landfill	<input type="checkbox"/> Damming	<input type="checkbox"/> Conversion to Agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> Excessive Soil Erosion/Degradation	<input type="checkbox"/> Drought	<input type="checkbox"/> Overfishing
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreational Development/Overuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Extraction Industry (mining/quarries)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticides	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential/Commercial Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

SUMMARIZE PRIMARY CONSERVATION PROBLEMS:

CONSERVATION MEASURES TAKEN, IN PROGRESS, OR PROPOSED:

ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, AND SOCIAL VALUES OF THE SITE:

EXISTING OR POTENTIAL ADVOCACY GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS FOR THIS SITE:					
Name/Organization			Name/Organization		
Address			Address		
City	State	Zip	City	State	Zip

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING DETAILS: Attach a separate sheet if necessary

PLEASE ATTACH ANY MATERIALS THAT WILL HELP SUPPORT YOUR NOMINATION: INCLUDING MAPS, PHOTOGRAPHS, AND FIELD NOTES.  
ALL NOMINATIONS WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE IDAHO IBA COMMITTEE.



# IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS IN IDAHO



## Land Ownership Guidelines

### IBA POLICY REGARDING PRIVATE LAND OWNERS AND PUBLIC LAND MANAGERS

The IBA Program is not regulatory, and an IBA designation has no regulatory authority whatsoever. The purpose of the IBA Program is to identify sites that provide important habitat for birds in Idaho, using a scientifically valid set of criteria. In all likelihood, an IBA designation will be indicative of good land stewardship and positive management practices that we want to recognize and encourage, with the full cooperation of the private land owner or public land manager.

*The Idaho Audubon Council and the National Audubon Society respect the rights of land owners and the right of privacy.* Before making any final IBA selection, we will contact appropriate land owners and land managers to seek their consent and participation in the IBA process. Conservation objectives and alternatives for selected IBA sites will be set with the cooperation of land owners and managers, as well as other interested parties.

We encourage compilers to approach land owners and managers when nominating IBAs only when there is a near-certainty of gaining the immediate understanding and cooperation of the land owner or manager, and only with the same respect the compiler would expect for his/her own rights.

If you have any doubts about how an IBA nomination will be received by a private land owner or manager, do not attempt to contact him or her. Instead, contact the Idaho IBA Coordinator for assistance, or simply fill out the information below, if available, and indicate any potential problems in the "comments" section. Return this form along with the Nomination Form to Colleen Moulton, IDFG (Wildlife), P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707; (208) 287-2751; [cmoulton@idfg.state.id.us](mailto:cmoulton@idfg.state.id.us)

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OWNERSHIP/MANAGEMENT INFORMATION: Enter the names of the owner(s) and/or manager(s) for the site you are nominating

Name/Company or Agency

Address

Phone

City

State

Zip

Permission Granted?

Name/Company or Agency

Address

Phone

City

State

Zip

Permission Granted?

Name/Company or Agency

Address

Phone

City

State

Zip

Permission Granted?

COMMENTS:

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## Appendix D

### HOW TO SELECT A SITE

#### DEFINITION

An Important Bird Area is a site providing essential habitat for one or more species of breeding or nonbreeding birds in Idaho.

#### BACKGROUND

Idaho Partners in Flight, the Idaho Audubon Council, and the National Audubon Society are participating in the Important Bird Areas Program. Our goal is to identify the sites (Important Bird Areas, or IBAs) that are the most important to Idaho's avifauna. It is hoped that this inventory will help conservation efforts.

Standardized criteria are used to identify and select Important BIRD Areas reflect the quantity and/or quality of bird life in a given area. A site meeting *one or more* of the criteria may qualify as an IBA. These criteria are not absolute, and other factors may be considered, such as quality and location of the habitat and management priority of affected species.

The following general characteristics should be applicable to the nominated sites whenever possible:

- The site should be predominately a natural area, broadly defined (for example, landfills are a likely exclusion)
- There is no minimum or maximum size, but the site should be small enough to be distinguishable from surrounding areas (boundaries can include rivers, roadways, and property lines), while also being large enough to encompass most of the birds' needs (for example, feeding *and* roosting areas for migrating shorebirds).
- The site should be managed, or have the potential to be managed, for the benefit of birds and other wildlife.
- All land ownerships will be considered, but private land will only be included with the owner's cooperation. Please see "Land Ownership Guidelines".

Important Bird Areas may be significant on different scales – State, National, Continental, or Global. The IBA Site Review Committee will forward to the National Audubon Society any State sites that meet National, Continental, or Global criteria.

#### CRITERIA

<b>Category 1: Sites where birds congregate for breeding, migrating, or wintering</b>
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This category includes sites that:

- 1a. Regularly support more than **50 pairs of colonial nesting birds** (grebes, pelicans, cormorants, herons, egrets, ibis) over the course of the breeding season.
- 1b. Regularly support more than **2,000 waterfowl** over a short period of time during and portion of the year, not including sedentary Canada Geese.
- 1c. Are regularly used by, or are "bottlenecks" or migratory corridors, for more than **300 raptors** in spring or fall (*seasonal total*).
- 1d. Regularly support at least **100 shorebirds** over a short period of time during any part of the year.
- 1e. Regularly support more than **2,500 pairs of nesting gulls** over the course of the breeding season, or more than **500 wintering gulls** over a short period of time.
- 1f. Support more than **25 pairs of nesting terns** over the course of the breeding season.

**Category 2: Sites having exceptional concentrations or diversity of birds, including sites that:**

- Are **migrant staging areas**.
- Are **migrant traps**.
- Have particularly high biodiversity. "High" is defined as more than **100 bird species in one day in the summer** or more than **70 birds species in one day in the winter**.

This category covers areas important to species not covered in Category 1, or for which numerical data are difficult to assess, such as migratory landbirds, as well as areas that stand out from the surrounding landscape because of their high diversity.

**Category 3: Sites important to species of special concern in Idaho.**

This category includes sites that support particularly high breeding or wintering densities of the following species identified in Idaho Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy as Species of Greatest Conservation Need:

Trumpeter Swan	Swainson's Hawk	Black Swift
Northern Pintail	Ferruginous Hawk	Lewis's Woodpecker
Lesser Scaup	Merlin	White-headed Woodpecker
Harlequin Duck	Peregrine Falcon	American Three-toed Woodpecker
Hooded Merganser	Sandhill Crane	Pinyon Jay
Greater Sage-Grouse	Black-necked Stilt	Juniper Titmouse
Sharp-tailed Grouse	American Avocet	Pygmy Nuthatch
Mountain Quail	Long-billed Curlew	Virginia's Warbler
Common Loon	Wilson's Phalarope	Brewer's Sparrow
Red-necked Grebe	Franklin's Gull	Grasshopper Sparrow
Western Grebe	California Gull	Blue Grosbeak
Clark's Grebe	Caspian Tern	Black Rosy-Finch
American White Pelican	Forster's Tern	South Hills Crossbill
Great Egret	Black Tern	White-winged Crossbill
Snowy Egret	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Lesser Goldfinch
Cattle Egret	Flammulated Owl	
Black-crowned Night-heron	Burrowing Owl	
White-faced Ibis	Short-eared Owl	
Bald Eagle	Boreal Owl	

The significance of the site should be judged relative to overall numbers of species in the state and to numbers occurring at other sites. Sites should be those areas where the species regularly occurs, or sites with suitable habitat where reintroductions are planned.

**Category 4: Sites containing particularly important habitats, including site that:**

- Contain habitats that are rare, threatened, or unusual within the state
- Are an exceptional representative of a natural habitat

These sites should support, or could be managed to support, the complete avian assemblage expected for these habitats.

**Category 5: Sites important for long-term research and/or monitoring projects that contribute substantially to ornithology and bird conservation.**